

# Appendix O — Current RMP and LRMP Decisions on Areas Open or Closed to Leasing

## Distribution of Area Leasing and Stipulations by Federal Management Responsibility within the Project Area

Parameter	Buffalo RMP	Casper RMP	TBNG		Total
			1985 LRMP	2002 LRMP	
Area Closed to Leasing					
<i>National Policy Closures (WSAs)</i>	1,333	0	0	0	1,333
<i>Planning Decision Closures (Cities and Towns)</i>	28,867	0	0	0	28,867
Area Open to Oil and Gas Leasing					
<i>Within CBM-productive coals<sup>1</sup></i>	2,382,929	445,145	95,443	0	2,923,517
<i>Outside CBM-productive coals</i>	1,082,583	367,453	0	161,381	1,611,417
Area not Leased but Available as of Aug. 2001					
<i>Within CBM-productive coals</i>	119,585	49,153	15,351	0	184,089
<i>Outside CBM-productive coals</i>	312,461	16,009	0	0	328,470
Area Leased with Stipulations					
No Surface Occupancy					
<i>Within CBM-productive coals</i>	35,036	8,555	32,267 <sup>2</sup>	0	75,858
<i>Outside CBM-productive coals</i>	6,729	4,744			7,203
Controlled Surface Use					
<i>Within CBM-productive coals</i>	84,684	24,444	654 <sup>2</sup>	0	116,561
<i>Outside CBM-productive coals</i>	14,686	5,755			
<i>Paleontological</i>			213,927 <sup>2</sup>		213,927
Timing Limitation					
<i>Within CBM-productive coals</i>	556,952	122,207	62,994 <sup>2</sup>		773,337
<i>Outside CBM-productive coals</i>	135,356	57,196			192,552

Notes:

1. CBM-productive coals are coal beds that are at least 20 feet thick.
2. Forest Service acreage was calculated based on the TBNG plan database.
3. Because areas may have more than one type of stipulation, the total area with stipulations plus SLT may be larger than the area open for leasing.

## Buffalo Field Office Area

Consistent with the current RMP, the only federal oil and gas that will not be leased in the BFOA are areas within incorporated cities and towns, such as Sheridan, Buffalo, and Gillette, and the three WSAs (BLM 2001a). The rest of the federal minerals in the BFOA are open to oil and gas leasing.

### **Casper Field Office Area**

Consistent with the current RMP, there are no areas closed to leasing within the CFO's portion of the Project Area.

### **Thunder Basin National Grassland**

Consistent with the current LRMP, there are no areas closed to leasing within the FS portion of the Project Area. The decision to make lands available for leasing was made in the 1994 ROD for the oil and gas leasing on the TBNG. The July 2002 ROD for the Revised TBNG LRMP deferred new leasing decisions on the area west of the Wyodak coal outcrop line until the cumulative effects of CBM were disclosed in this PRB analysis. Therefore, on TBNG lands with potential for CBM, the oil and gas decisions in the 1994 ROD are in effect until changed in accordance with this PRB analysis.